

## **Regional Planning Committee Summary Minutes**

**Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter Auditorium**

**101 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, California**

**June 6, 2007**

### **Members Present**

Susan Adams, Supervisor, County of Marin  
Len Augustine, Mayor, City of Vacaville  
Andy Barnes, Policy Chair, Urban Land Institute  
Pat Eklund, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Novato  
Rose Jacobs Gibson, Supervisor, County of San Mateo  
Mark Green, Mayor, Chair of RPC, City of Union City  
Scott Haggerty, Supervisor, County of Alameda  
Stana Hearne, Bay Area League of Women Voters  
John Holtzclaw, Sierra Club  
Jake Mackenzie, Councilmember, City of Rohnert Park  
Nate Miley, Supervisor, County of Alameda  
Mike Moore, Community Dev. Director, BAPDA  
Joseph Perkins, CEO, Home Builders Association of Northern California  
Julie Pierce, Councilmember, City of Clayton  
Gwen Regalia, Councilmember, City of Walnut Creek  
Mark Ross, Councilmember, City of Martinez  
Pixie Hayward Schickele, California Teachers Association  
Carol Severin, Director, East Bay Regional Park District  
Jim Spering, Supervisor, County of Solano  
Tom Steinbach, Executive Director, Greenbelt Alliance

### **Members Absent**

Shiloh Ballard, Director, Housing and Community Development, Silicon Valley Leadership Group  
Valerie Brown, Supervisor, Sonoma County  
Jose Cisneros, Treasurer, City and County of San Francisco  
David Cortese, Vice Mayor, City of San Jose  
Diane Dillon, Supervisor, County of Napa  
Juliet Ellis, Executive Director, Urban Habitat  
Daniel Furtado, Mayor, City of Campbell  
Jean Hart, Deputy Director, Alameda County CMA  
Kasie Hildenbrand, Councilmember, City of Dublin  
Jennifer Hosterman, Mayor, City of Pleasanton  
Andrew Michael, Vice President, Bay Area Council  
Dena Mossar, Councilmember, City of Palo Alto  
Nancy Nadel, Councilmember, City of Oakland  
Dianne Spaulding, (Geeta Rao) Executive Director, Nonprofit Housing of Northern California  
Mary Warren, Board Member, Regional Water Quality Control Board

### **Staff Present**

Ken Kirkey, Planning Director  
Felila Toleafoa, Administrative Assistant  
Jeanne Perkins, Hazardous Risks Specialist

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### **1. Call to Order/Introductions**

Chair Mark Green called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. A quorum was not present.

### **2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **3. Approval of Minutes for June 6, 2006**

Minutes were not approved at this time.

### **4. Oral Reports/Comments**

#### **A. Committee Members**

Julie Pierce – On June 5, 2007, the City of Clayton voted on a landscape maintenance measure to replace an existing measure. The prior measure was \$128 per year for landscape maintenance, while the new measure will be for \$197 per year. The measure passed by 82 ½ %.

Jake Mackenzie – The Bay Area Water Forum (BAWF), a consortium of interested local elected officials from water agencies, and interested parties continue to meet on a monthly basis. BAWF would like to be more closely connected with the FOCUS group to start bringing together the water supply agencies with the land use decision making jurisdictions in a more formal mechanism.

#### **B. Staff**

No reports from ABAG staff.

### **5. FOCUS: Kenneth Kirkey, ABAG Planning Director**

Ken gave the RPC an update of the FOCUS initiative and provided information relative to a staff recommendation pertaining to Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs). He provided an overview of the nomination process relative to Priority Development Areas (PDA) indicating that application had been sent out to jurisdictions, congestion management and transit agencies. June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007 was described as the deadline for submitting Priority Development Areas (PDAs) applications with the Resolution deadline extended to September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The 1<sup>st</sup> round of PDA applications are for entry level designation. The entry level criteria are that a proposed PDA be: within an existing community, near existing or planned fixed transit (or served by comparable bus service), and that there is an existing plan with a significant housing plan component or an initiative to create such a plan. Applications will be reviewed by regional agency staff for completeness and eligibility based upon the criteria described. A broad-based committee of local government peers, including members

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of the FOCUS Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) consisting largely planning directors and city managers, staff members from CMAs and some stakeholder reps, will be asked to assist staff with the review of the entry-level applications and to providing input relative to potential planning, capital and infrastructure incentives and related incentive criteria for PDAs. The infrastructure consideration will be addressed in part through feedback commentary questions relative to submitted entry-level applications. The questions are intended to help staff better understand what the jurisdictions are trying to accomplish in the proposed areas and work with them to develop incentive criteria. The questions were previously approved by the Joint Policy Committee (JPC) were provided to the RPC for comment and approval.

Mr. Kirkey described the PCA process as being poised to be a relevant regional-level program in that the state Coastal Conservancy's Bay Area Open Space Program is interested in partnering with the FOCUS initiative and wants to be integrally involved in the process. The PCA nomination process was described as being slated to commence in late June with regional agency staff will be reviewing nominations in August. Recommendations for FOCUS PDAs and PCAs will be presented this fall. The PCAs are near-term conservation priorities related to land acquisition for conservation purposes or conservation easements. PCAs will also serve as a basis for providing additional open space funds for the Bay Area.

Mr. Kirkey indicated that Staff is proposing, in terms of review process, a review committee of land protection representatives from public and private sector entities from each of the nine counties. Staff is also proposing county-level meetings coordinated with the Coastal Conservancy in each of the 9 counties in September, to provide an overview of the proposed areas. The regional review committee will convene in early October and make recommendations which will be presented at the GA/Regional Summit in October. ABAG asks that the RPC endorse the establishment of a regional committee of open space experts, representatives of open space entities to work with staff and review areas nominated for PCA designation and make recommendations for inclusion in the FOCUS PCA plan. Discussion related to jurisdictional feedback and input followed Mr. Kirkey's report. After some discussion, Chair Green indicated that there appeared to be support for the staff's recommendation provided that the proposed review panel includes members related to non-open space interests such as economic development and affordable housing. Councilmember Jake Mackenzie made a motion to support staff's recommendations recognizing committee discussion. The motion was approved unanimously.

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### **6. Jobs/Housing Growth and Childcare: Gerry Raycraft Children's Network of Solano County and Maria Raff, Low Income Investment Fund**

Gerry Raycraft, Child Care Facilities Development Coordinator for the Children's Network of Solano County, provided an overview of Constructing Connections, a program with goals to focus on the development of child care centers. Maria Raff from the Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF) and Director of the Affordable Buildings for Children's Development Initiative discussed LIIF, a 22 year old community development financial institution with history in financing, delivering capital and technical assistance to affordable housing, specifically for childcare facilities. Maria described the relationship between commute patterns and childcare as well as how childcare principles could be addressed relative to FOCUS Priority Development Areas.. Generally speaking, parents choose childcare that is close to home with childcare is a neighborhood anchor. It's often referred to as community central in a neighborhood and can serve as a crime deterrent in a community. In terms of economic activity, childcare co-located with businesses improves productivity, reduces absenteeism, and cuts employee turnover. Like housing, an employee might be looking for a job closer to where their childcare is. Ms. Raff further described that childcare is an important employment sector. Most people who are employed in a childcare program come from the local community. Childcare is a small business activity in itself.

Environment is one of the FOCUS elements. In terms of transportation and infrastructure, on the planning side of things, looking at childcare and planning for it in terms of smart growth, TOD, higher density housing, it's important to consider childcare relative to land use and transportation planning. Co-locating childcare with other elements reduces vehicle trips. Childcare also related to the Social Equity element of FOCUS as childcare enables parents to go to work, and obtain economic self sufficiency.

Ms. Raff completed her presentation by describing how childcare supports children's ability to start school ready to learn. If they are enrolled in a quality program, they will be much more ready to learn, which will in turn have them do better in school and in life. In every community in the state of CA, there's a huge demand for childcare, and it's not met in every community.

### **7. Regional Disaster Recovery Planning, Kathleen Crawford State Office of Emergency Services; Jeanne Perkins Association of Bay Area Governments**

Kathleen Crawford, of the State Office of Emergency Services (OES) provided background on the need for regional planning for unforeseen disasters. Ms. Crawford described some of the ways in which major disasters have a regional impact where resources will be shared regionally. The National

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Preparedness Initiatives from the federal government are emphasizing regional readiness. To date, recovery planning has not been emphasized. Given the need to address recovery planning at a regional level, the State of California's OES is supporting a regional recovery planning initiative. OES will be forming a technical committee to promote a statewide recovery plan and seeks to promote public and private collaboration.

Ms. Crawford provided an overview of the Regional Emergency Recovery Plan (RECP), that has been funded through the urban areas security initiatives which now involves 10 Bay Area operational areas which are the 9 bay counties, and Santa Cruz County. The RECP provides an opportunity for the Bay Area to refine the process. OES has a base plan with various annexes including medical health and fire and law enforcement. The Regional Recovery Plan is a subsidiary component of the RECP which addresses the relationship between response and recovery. When a catastrophic event occurs, the first period of time is focused on life safety, property protection, environmental protection handled from emergency operation centers, city, county, regional and state level. After the first initial response, the region should start to figure out how to get people back on the job, how does the economy rebound, how do we take care of housing needs, how to get the schools back. These are recovery oriented actions, which are not managed by fire and policy departments, but are related to local planning departments, public works, zoning, etc.

The RECP plan is designed to address short term recovery issues. It is for the 90 days after the event. In the first 90 days, there will be discussions of getting people back to work, how to restore services, restoring the community and economy, discussion of evacuation. These are short term recovery issues which if we considered in advance as part of an established regional planning process, can be addressed much more efficiently. OES will be coordinating the federal, state, local and non-governmental entities.

Kathleen Crawford indicated that OES sought to find out from the RPC what local needs of our government are that have not been addressed. OES is attempting to define and put into a guideline the role of State OES, and how State OES transitions from coordinating the response to the recovery coordination of bi-regional entity, which is not necessarily the State of CA. There are federal actions under the long term recovery program under the RECP, called ESF 13, which is still in the works, triggered by the problems in the Hurricane Katrina response. We are dealing with specific areas like debris management, short term housing, and transportation. Those are areas specifically working on in the first 90 days.

Ms. Perkins provided additional information describing the distinction between emergency response issues for which the Bay Area is relatively well prepared and short and long-term recovery planning

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for which it is not. The well known failure of the various government entities in the New Orleans region to address recovery issues after Hurricane Katrina was described as an example of the serious problems that can result from a lack of regional-level coordination related to disasters. Ms. Perkins described how recovery processes are local, but there is also a need for regional coordination and a decision making body that help share those resources.

Ms. Crawford indicated that OES has identified the RPC as an ideal regional body of decision-makers and stakeholder representatives to consider planning issues in advance of a natural or man-made disaster and to serve as a significant advisory body post-disaster relative to a wide-range of strategic issues. Ms. Perkins indicated that staff was recommending that the RPC take on this role to provide an implementation body post-disaster and a regional counterpart to the federal long term recovery planning and the State federal disaster specific initiatives. Following some discussion on the part of RPC members, with several members indicating support for the RPC serving as the regional body in the Bay Area to address recovery planning issues, Chair Green called the question. The Committee voiced support for the RPC taking on the role and instructed staff to identify what issues would need to be considered to prepare for the role. Committee members also suggested that Staff should consider if there are entities not currently represented on the RPC that could be beneficial including utilities.

### **Next steps**

Staff will review issues related to coordination, funding, an initial work plan related to the RPC taking on the role of Regional Disaster Recovery. Presently, OES needs assistance with a draft regional recovery plan. OES is using URS as a consultant; James Godfrey of URS provided a brief outlined a plan how the RPC could assist with the development of this plan.

### **8. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM. The next meeting is on August 1, 2007.

Submitted by:  
Felila Toleafoa  
Administrative Assistant